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REPORT NO. 89-R-06
AFPEA PROJECT NO. 88-P-102

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QUALIFICATION TESTING OF THE COMBAT TALON II
RECEIVER/TRANSMITTER CONTAINER

HQ AFLC/DSTZ
AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY
Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-5999

August 1989

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ABSTRACT

Aeronautical Systems Division, ASD/VXAL, requested assistance from the Air Force Packaging Evaluation Activity (AFPEA) to choose an off the shelf container and qualify it for the receiver/transmitter (R/T) used on Combat Talon II aircraft.

The R/T prototype container was tested at the AFPEA, HQ AFLC/DSTZ, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433-5999. The container is environmentally sealed and outfitted with a humidity indicator and pressure relief valve. The container is designed to protect one R/T during worldwide shipment, storage, and handling.

The container test plan was developed to test the fragility and environmental sealing qualification requirements. The tests were conducted in accordance with Federal Test Method Standard No. 101, and Military Standard 648.

Results of the tests conducted on the prototype container show that the container provides adequate mechanical protection but only marginal environmental protection. Based on the projected operational environment, the system program office has elected to use the container.

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INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND: Aeronautical Systems Division (ASD/VXAL), Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-5000 requested assistance from the Air Force Packaging Evaluation Activity (AFPEA) to choose an off the shelf container for the ku-band and x-band receiver transmitters (R/T) and perform qualification testing. Since the two R/T's are identical only one container design is necessary. The container chosen was a plastic multipurpose container designed by Hardigg Industries, South Deerfield, MA 01373.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this project was to determine if the container design will protect the contents, one R/T for Combat Talon II aircraft, during worldwide shipment, storage, and handling.

DESCRIPTION OF TEST CONTAINER

The 11214-8678-100 prototype container, now referred to as -100, was subjected to extensive testing. The sides, edges and latches of the container were numbered counterclockwise from the forward end as shown in figure 1.

Design: The -100 prototype is a controlled-breathing container (see figure 2), with a pressure relief valve and humidity indicator. The container is designed to limit the transmission of shocks to the R/T to 40 Gs. Fourteen wing latches allow quick access to the container contents without the use of tools.

Construction: The container is rotationally molded from a formulation of polyethylene. Two pound density polyethylene foam encapsulates the item (see figure 3). A silicone gasket provides a seal between the container base and the container cover.

TEST OUTLINE AND TEST EQUIPMENT

Test Plan: Tests were conducted in accordance with AFPEA Test Plan 88-P-102 (see table 1). The tests used were selected to meet the qualification requirements for fragility and environmental sealing. Test methods, procedures and pass/fail criteria used were as outlined in Federal Test Method Standard No. 101 (FED-STD-101) and Military Standard 648. Any modifications to the standard procedures are noted in the test plan or the results.

Test Load: All tests were conducted using the R/T test load fabricated at the AFPEA. The test load weighs 145 pounds and simulates the center of gravity and the mass moment of inertia of an actual R/T.

Test Site: All testing was conducted at the AFPEA, HQ AFLC/DSTZ, Building 70, Area C, Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-5999. The equipment required for each test is noted in the test plan.

TEST PROCEDURES AND RESULTS

Weight Test

Test No. 1: The container was weighed to determine weight compliance.

Results: The cover weighed 58 pounds, the base weighed 65.5 pounds, total tare weight of 123.5 pounds. The results of this test are acceptable.

Leak Test

Test No. 2: The pneumatic pressure test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2 at 0.50 psig. The vacuum retention test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2 at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was 0.025 psig loss during a 30 minute period, after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: At the end of the 30 minute test period the pressure loss was 0.024 psig. At the end of the 30 minute test period the vacuum loss was 0.024 psig. The results of this test are acceptable.

Rough Handling Tests (+140°F)

Test No. 3a: The high temperature cornerwise-drop (rotational) test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5005.1. Due to the location of the center of gravity the maximum attainable height of the drop was 28 inches.

Results: Visual inspection revealed no external damage to the container. A maximum of 8 Gs was obtained during the test.

Test No. 3b: The high temperature edgewise-drop (rotational) test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5008.1. Due to the location of the center of gravity the maximum attainable height of the drop was 28 inches.

Results: Visual inspection revealed no external damage to the container. A maximum of 10 Gs was obtained during the test.

Test No. 3c: The high temperature pendulum-impact test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5012. The impact velocity was 7 ft/sec, the height of the drop was 9 inches.

Results: Visual inspection revealed no external damage to the container. A maximum of 17 Gs was obtained during the test.

The container was opened after the pendulum-impact test. Visual inspection revealed no damage to the container or the test load. The results of these tests are acceptable. See appendix 1 for detailed acceleration results.

Leak Test

Test No. 4: The pneumatic pressure test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2. The test was performed at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was a 0.0125 psig loss during a 15 minute period after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: At the end of the 15 minute test period the pressure loss was 0.01 psig. The result of this test is acceptable.

Rough Handling Tests (-20°F)

Test No. 5a: The low temperature cornerwise-drop (rotational) test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5005.1. Due to the location of the center of gravity the maximum attainable height of the drop was 24 inches.

Results: Visual inspection revealed no external damage to the container. A maximum of 11 Gs was obtained during the test.

Test No. 5b: The low temperature edgewise-drop (rotational) test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5008.1. Due to the location of the center of gravity the maximum attainable height of the drop was 29 inches.

Results: Visual inspection revealed no external damage to the container. A maximum of 14 Gs was obtained during the test.

Test No. 5c: The low temperature pendulum-impact test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5012. The impact velocity was 7 ft/sec, the height of the drop was 9 inches.

Results: Visual inspection revealed no external damage to the container. A maximum of 29 Gs was obtained during the test.

The container was opened after the pendulum-impact test. Visual inspection revealed no damage to the container or the test load. However after cold conditioning the decals fell off the container. The results of this test are acceptable.

Leak Test

Test No. 6: The pneumatic pressure test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2. The test was performed at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was a 0.0125 psig loss during a 15 minute period after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: At the end of the 15 minute test period the pressure loss was 0.01 psig. The result of this test is acceptable.

Vibration Fatigue Test

Test No. 7: The vibration fatigue test was conducted in accordance with MIL-STD-648, paragraph 5.3.2. The container was rigidly attached to the platform (see figure 4). A sinusoidal vibration excitation was applied in a vertical direction and cyclically swept for 7.5 minutes at 2 minutes per octave to locate the resonant frequency. Input from 5 to 12.5 Hz was at 0.125 inch double amplitude and input from 12.5 to 50.0 Hz was at 1.0 G. A 30 minute dwell test was conducted at the resonant frequency.

Results: Visual inspection revealed no damage to the container or the test load. A maximum of 2.7 Gs was obtained at the resonant frequency of 11.5 Hz. The maximum transmissibility obtained was 2.4. The results of this test are acceptable.

Leak Test

Test No. 8: The pneumatic pressure test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2. The test was performed at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was a 0.0125 psig loss during a 15 minute period after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: At the end of the 15 minute test period the pressure loss was 0.008 psig. The result of this test is acceptable.

Hoisting Strength Test

Test No. 9: The single ring hoisting test was conducted in accordance with MIL-STD-648, paragraph 5.8.5. The loaded container was lifted by a lift ring and suspended for five minutes.

Results: Visual inspection of the container revealed no damage or deformation. The result of this test is acceptable.

Cover Handle Pull Test

Test No. 10: The cover handle pull test was performed using one handle to lift the 58 pound cover off the ground. A 192 pound weight was placed on the cover to give a total weight of 250 pounds. The cover was suspended for 5 minutes.

Results: Visual inspection revealed no deflection or permanent deformation to the cover handle or the container cover. The results of this test are acceptable.

Leak Test

Test No. 11: The pneumatic pressure test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2. The test was performed at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was a 0.0125 psig loss during a 15 minute period after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: At the end of the 15 minute test period the pressure loss was 0.012 psig. The result of this test is acceptable.

Superimposed Load Test

Test No. 12a: The ambient superimposed load test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5016.1. A load of 2909 pounds was placed on top of the container using load spreaders. This simulates the loading of a stack of five containers with a safety factor of two on the bottom container (see figure 5).

Results: Visual inspection revealed no damage to the container. The result of this test is acceptable.

Test No. 12b: The high temperature, high humidity superimposed load test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5016.1. A load of 1455 pounds was placed on top of the container using load spreaders this simulates the loading of a stack of five containers with a safety factor of one on the bottom container (see figure 6).

Results: Visual inspection revealed a permanent deformation of the container (see figure 7). This deformation did not cause any damage to the R/T or impair stackability. The result of this test is acceptable.

Leak Test

Test No. 13: The pneumatic pressure test was conducted in accordance with FID-STD-101, Method 5009.2. The test was performed at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was a 0.0125 psig loss during a 15 minute period after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: The container would not pressurize and a leakage rate could not be obtained. This occurred due to the permanent deformation of the container from the high temperature, high humidity & permissposed load test.

CONCLUSION

The #10 prototype container provided adequate mechanical protection for the contents when tested in accordance with the container test plan. However, the container provides marginal environmental protection, especially if the container will be shipped and/or stored in a stacked configuration under tropical conditions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Additional cushion cut outs around the pressure relief valve and humidity indicator. Decals on the containers need better adherence for cold temperature environments. Container walls need to be made stiffer for more stability. The container should not be used for lengthy storage.

Table 1. Test Plan

AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY

AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER

(Container Test Plan)

88-P-102

CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D) (INCHES)
INTERIOR: EXTERIOR:WEIGHT (LBS)
GROSS: ITEM:

CUBE (CU. FT.) QUANTITY

DATE

3 Jul 89

ITEM NAME

MANUFACTURER

LRUs

Hardigg Industries

CONTAINER NAME

CONTAINER COST

Part numbers 11214-8678-100

PACK DESCRIPTION

Composite Container

CONDITIONING

As noted below.

TEST NO.	REF STD/SPEC AND TEST METHOD OR PROCEDURE NO'S	TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS	CONTAINER ORIENTATION	INSTRUMENTATION
1.	<u>WEIGHT TEST</u>	Container cover weight should not be greater than 60 lbs. Total container weight shall not be less than 123 lbs.	Fully assembled container including shock isolation system.	Scale
2.	<u>LEAK TEST</u> FED-STD-101 Method 5009.2	Pneumatic pressure at 0.50 PSIG and vacuum retention at 0.50 PSIG. Test duration to be a minimum of 30 minutes with 0.025 PSIG loss allowed after temperature stabilization.	Test at ambient condition from compressed air supply/vacuum pump.	Water manometer
3.	<u>ROUGH HANDLING TESTS (HIGH TEMPERATURE +140°F)</u>			
a.	FED-STD-101 Method 5008.1	Edge wise - drop (rotational) test. Condition at +140°F for not less than 24 hours. Drop height 36 inches or maximum height where container does not tilt over on side. Peak resultant acceleration shall not exceed 40Gs.	Test performed in chamber. One drop on two adjacent bottom edges, total of two drops.*	Tri-axial accelerometers

COMMENTS: * Remaining edge drops to be performed in Test No. 5a.

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Ted Hinds
Ted Hinds, Chief, Design Br., AFPEA

AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY

(Container Test Plan)

AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER

88-P-102

CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D) (INCHES)
INTERIOR: EXTERIOR:

WEIGHT (LBS)
GROSS: ITEM:

CUBE (CU. FT.) QUANTITY

DATE

3 Jul 89

ITEM NAME

MANUFACTURER

LRUS

Hardigg Industries

CONTAINER NAME

CONTAINER COST

Part numbers 11214-4675-100

PACK DESCRIPTION

Composite container
CONDITIONING

As noted below.

TEST NO.	REF STD/SPEC AND TEST METHOD OR PROCEDURE NOS	TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS	CONTAINER ORIENTATION	INSTRUMENTATION
1	STD-STD-101 Method 5009.2	Cornerwise-drop (rotational) test. Condition at +140°F for not less than 24 hours. Drop height 36 inches or maximum height where container does not tilt over on side. Peak resultant acceleration shall not exceed 40Gs.	Test performed in chamber. One drop on diagonal bottom corners, total of two drops.*	Tri-axial accelerometers
2	STD-STD-101 Method 5012	Pendulum-impact test. Condition at +165°F. Temperature of shock mitigation system at time of test shall be +140 (+10, -0°F). Impact velocity 8 ft/sec, drop height 9 inches. Peak resultant acceleration shall not exceed 40Gs.	One impact on two adjacent sides, total of two impacts.**	Tri-axial accelerometers, Thermocouples
3	LAB TEST STD-STD-101 Method 5009.2	Pneumatic pressure with 0.50 PSIG. Test duration not less than 15 minutes with 0.0125 PSIG loss allowed after temperature stabilization.	Ambient	Water manometer

* Remaining corner drops to be performed in Test No. 5b.
** Remaining side impacts to be performed in Test No. 5c.

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AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY

(Container Test Plan)

AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER

88-P-102

CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D) (INCHES)
INTERIOR: EXTERIOR:

WEIGHT (LBS)
GROSS: ITEM:

CUBE (CU. FT.)

QUANTITY

DATE

3 Jul 89

ITEM NAME

LRUs

MANUFACTURER

Hardigg Industries

CONTAINER NAME

Part numbers 11214-8678-100

CONTAINER COST

PACK DESCRIPTION

Composite Container

CONDITIONING

As noted below.

TEST NO.	REF STD/SPEC AND TEST METHOD OR PROCEDURE NO'S	TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS	CONTAINER ORIENTATION	INSTRUMENTATION
5.	<u>ROUGH HANDLING TESTS (LOW TEMPERATURE -20°F)</u>			
a.	FED-STD-101 Method 5008.1	Edge wise - drop (rotational) test. Condition at -20°F for not less than 24 hours. Drop height 36 inches or maximum height where container does not tilt over. Peak resultant acceleration shall not exceed 40Gs.	Test performed in chamber. One drop on two adjacent bottom edges, total of two drops.*	Tri-axial accelerometers
b.	FED-STD-101 Method 5005.1	Corner wise - drop (rotational) test. Condition at -20°F for not less than 24 hours. Drop height 36 inches or maximum height where container does not tilt over. Peak resultant acceleration shall not exceed 40Gs.	Test performed in chamber. One drop on diagonal bottom corners, total of two drops.**	Tri-axial accelerometers
c.	FED-STD-101 Method 5012	Pendulum-impact test. Condition at -65°F. Temperature of shock mitigation system at time of test shall be -20 (+0, -10°F). Impact velocity 7 ft/sec, drop height 9 inches. Peak	One impact on two adjacent sides, total of two impacts.***	Tri-axial accelerometers, Thermocouples

COMMENTS: * These edges are opposite those impacted in Test No. 3a.
** These corners are opposite those impacted in Test No. 3b.
*** These sides are opposite those impacted in Test No. 3c.

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AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY

(Container Test Plan)

AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER

88-P-102

CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D)(INCHES)

INTERIOR:

EXTERIOR:

WEIGHT (LBS)

GROSS:

ITEM:

CUBE (CU. FT.)

QUANTITY

DATE

3 Jul 89

ITEM NAME

LRUs

MANUFACTURER

Hardigg Industries

CONTAINER NAME

CONTAINER COST

Part numbers 11214-8678-100

PACK DESCRIPTION

Composite Container

CONDITIONING

As noted below.

TEST
NO.

REF STD/SPEC
AND TEST METHOD OR
PROCEDURE NO'S

TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS

CONTAINER
ORIENTATION

INSTRU-
MENTATION

resultant acceleration
shall not exceed 40Gs.

6. LEAK TEST

REF-STD-101
Method 5009.2

Pneumatic pressure with
0.50 PSIG. Test dura-
tion not less than 15
minutes with 0.0125 PSIG
loss allowed after temp-
erature stabilization.

Ambient

Water
manometer

7. VIBRATION FATIGUE TEST

MIL-STD-648
Part 3.3.2

Input excitation of
0.125 inch double
amplitude or 1G,
whichever is less.
Sweep approximately
logarithmically from 5
to 50 Hz (about 1/2
octave/min) for 7-1/2
minutes. Then dwell 30
minutes at the resonant
frequency. The test may
be interrupted to
prevent excessive
temperature rise in
materials. Transmis-
sibility shall not
exceed 5 at the resonant
frequency.

Rigidly attach
container to
exciter. The
use of straps
is prohibited.

Triaxial
accelero-
meters,
Thermo-
couples

COMMENTS:

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AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY

(Container Test Plan)

AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER

88-P-102

CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D) (INCHES)
INTERIOR: EXTERIOR:

WEIGHT (LBS)
GROSS: ITEM:

CUBE (CU. FT.)

QUANTITY

DATE

3 Jul 89

ITEM NAME

LRUs

MANUFACTURER

Hardigg Industries

CONTAINER NAME

CONTAINER COST

Part numbers 11214-8678-100

PACK DESCRIPTION

Composite Container

CONDITIONING

As noted below.

TEST NO.	REF STD/SPEC AND TEST METHOD OR PROCEDURE NO'S	TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS	CONTAINER ORIENTATION	INSTRUMENTATION
8.	<u>LEAK TEST</u> FED-STD-101 Method 5009.2	Pneumatic pressure with 0.50 PSIG. Test duration not less than 15 minutes with 0.0125 PSIG loss allowed after temperature stabilization.	Ambient	Water manometer
9.	<u>HOISTING STRENGTH TEST</u> MIL-STD-648 Para. 5.8.5	Single ring hoisting test. Hoist container at one lift point and leave hanging for five minutes. There shall be no damage or permanent deformation.	Ambient	Visual inspection
10.	<u>COVER HANDLE PULL TEST</u>	Apply a force of 250 lbs on a cover handle in all directions that service loads are possible. There shall be no damage or permanent deformation.	Ambient	Scale

COMMENTS:

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AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY

(Container Test Plan)

AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER

88-P-102

CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D) (INCHES)
INTERIOR: EXTERIOR:

WEIGHT (LBS)
GROSS: ITEM:

CUBE (CU. FT.)

QUANTITY

DATE

3 Jul 89

ITEM NAME

LRUs

MANUFACTURER

Hardigg Industries

CONTAINER NAME

Part numbers 11214-8678-100

CONTAINER COST

PACK DESCRIPTION

Composite Container

CONDITIONING

As noted below.

TEST NO.

REF STD/SPEC
AND TEST METHOD OR
PROCEDURE NO'S

TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS

CONTAINER
ORIENTATION

INSTRU-
MENTATION

11. LEAK TEST

FFD-STD-101
Method 5009.2

Pneumatic pressure with
0.50 PSIG. Test dura-
tion not less than 15
minutes with 0.0125 PSIG
loss allowed after temp-
erature stabilization.

Ambient

Water
manometer

12. SUPERIMPOSED LOAD

a. FFD-STD-101
Method 5016.1

At ambient temperature,
stack two containers
with additional load on
top to simulate stacking
5 containers or 16 ft
high, whichever is
greater. Load equals
load on bottom container
times a factor of safety
of 2. Test duration not
less than 1 hour.
Additional load placed
on top container such
that the total load is
carried by the stacking
provisions. There shall
be no permanent deforma-
tion.

Test conducted
at ambient and
+120°F (in
chamber).
Stack two
high, bottom
container is
under test.

V i s u a l
inspection

The test shall be
repeated with containers
conditioned at 120°F and

COMMENTS:

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AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY

(Container Test Plan)

AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER

88-P-102

CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D) (INCHES)

INTERIOR:

EXTERIOR:

WEIGHT (LBS)

GROSS:

ITEM:

CUBE (CU. FT.)

QUANTITY

DATE

3 Jul 89

ITEM NAME

LRUs

MANUFACTURER

Hardigg Industries

CONTAINER NAME

Part numbers 11214-8678-100

CONTAINER COST

PACK DESCRIPTION

Composite Container

CONDITIONING

As noted below.

TEST NO.	REF STD/SPEC AND TEST METHOD OR PROCEDURE NO'S	TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS	CONTAINER ORIENTATION	INSTRUMENTATION
13.	<u>LEAK TEST</u> FED-STD-101 Method 5009.2	90% relative humidity for 168 hours. The safety factor shall be 1. Pneumatic pressure with 0.50 PSIG. Test duration not less than 15 minutes with 0.0125 PSIG loss allowed after temperature stabilization.	Ambient	W a t e r Manometer

COMMENTS:

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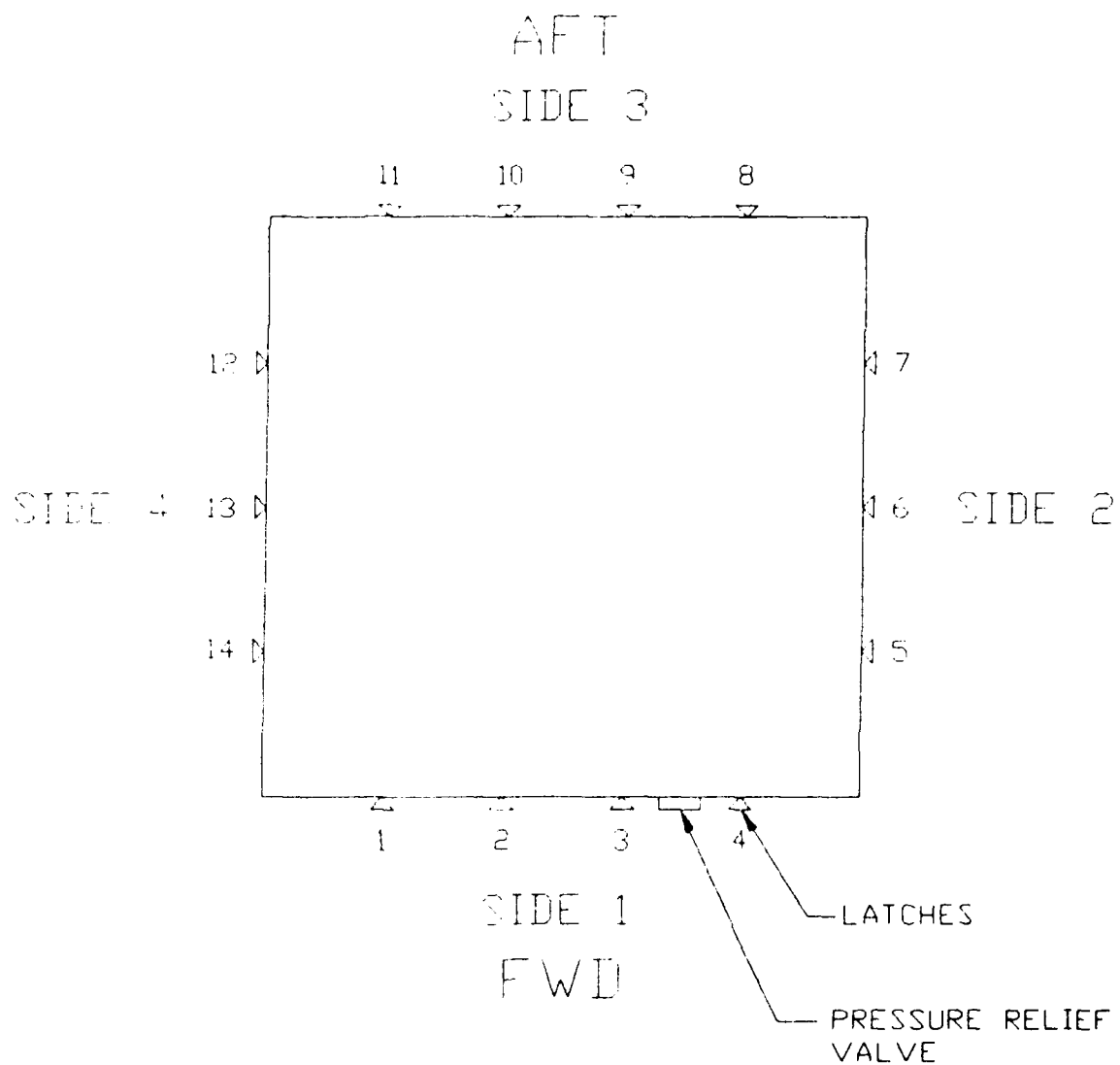


FIGURE 1. -100 Corner, Side and Latch Numbering.

Figure 2

-100
Prototype
Container.

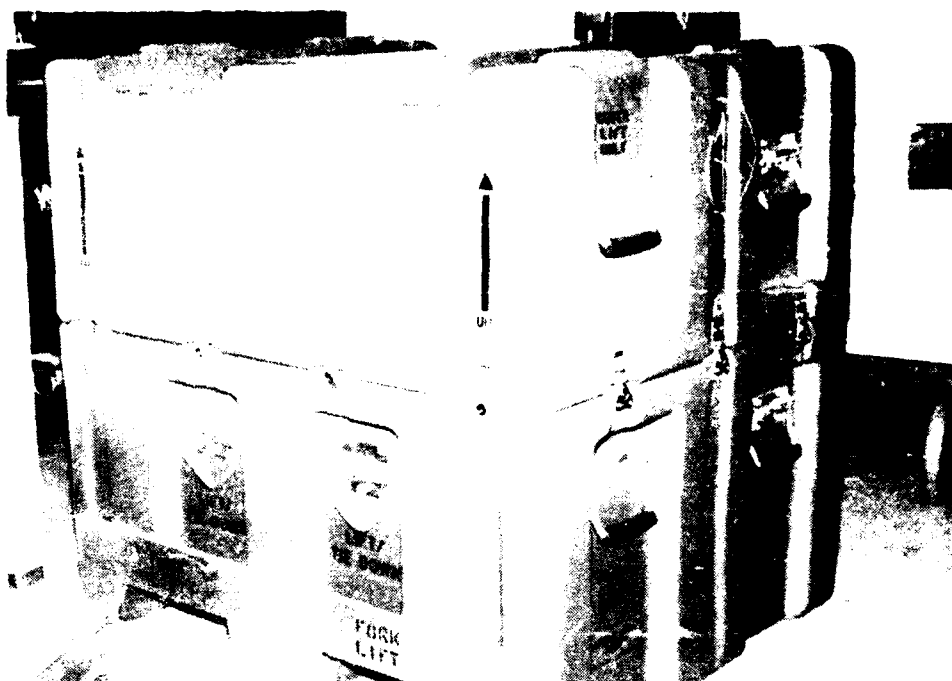


Figure 3

-100
Container
Cushioning.

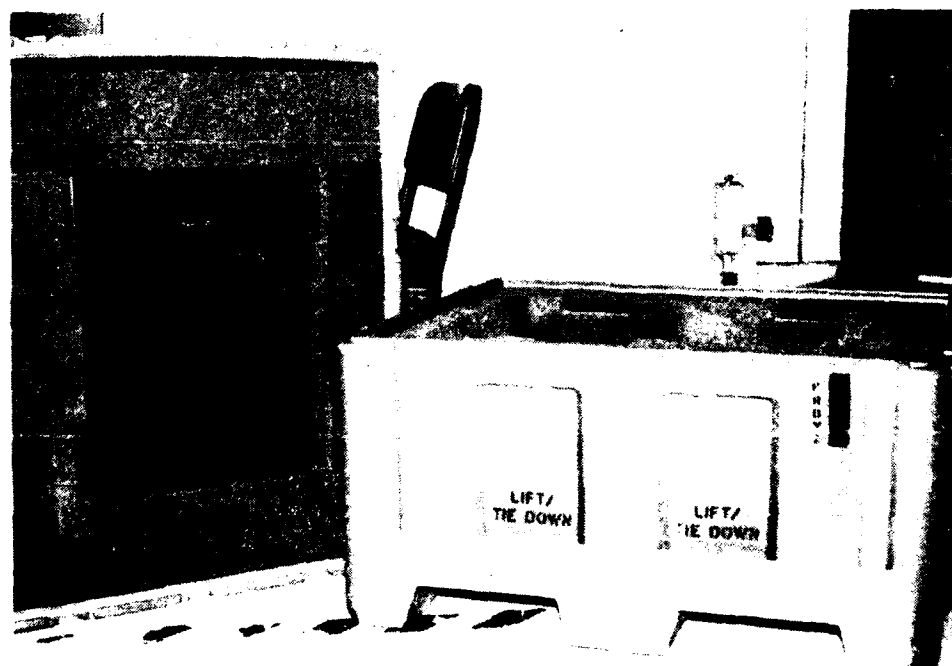


Figure 4

Vibration
Fatigue Test.

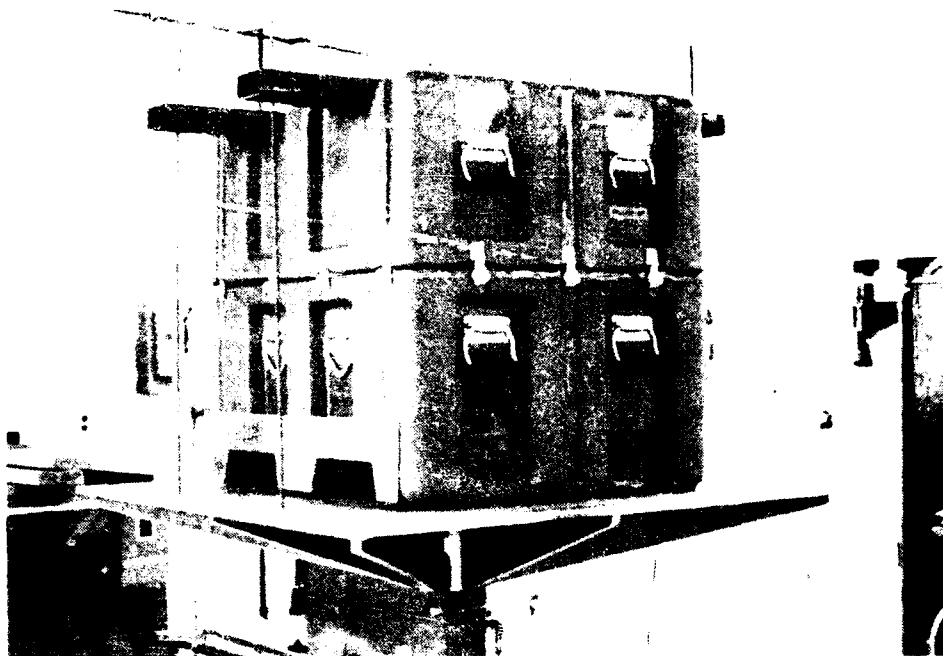


Figure 5

Ambient
Superimposed
Load Test.

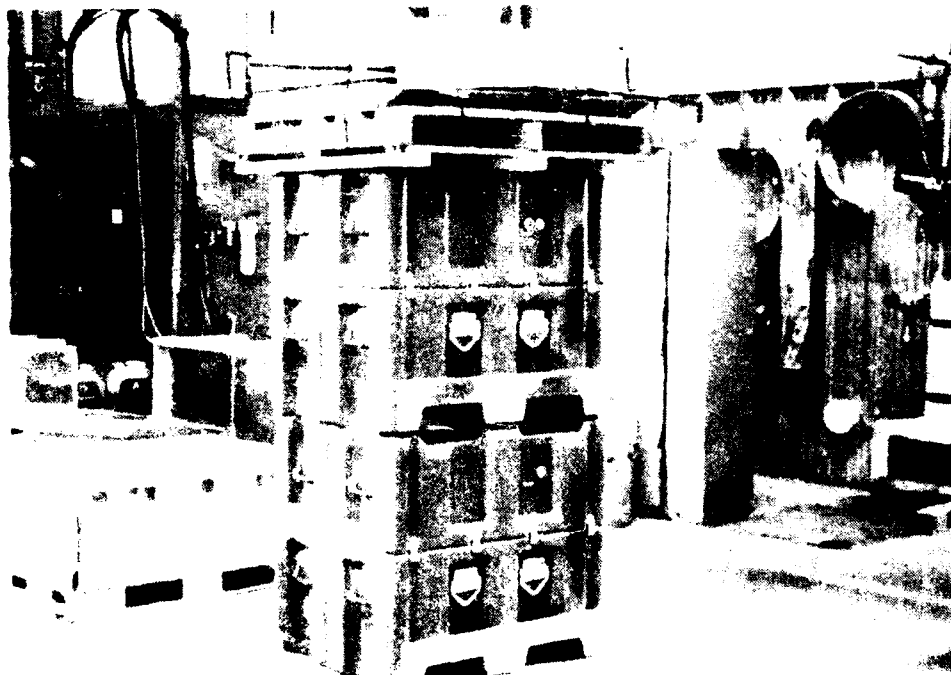


Figure 6

High Temperature,
High Humidity
Superimposed
Load Test.

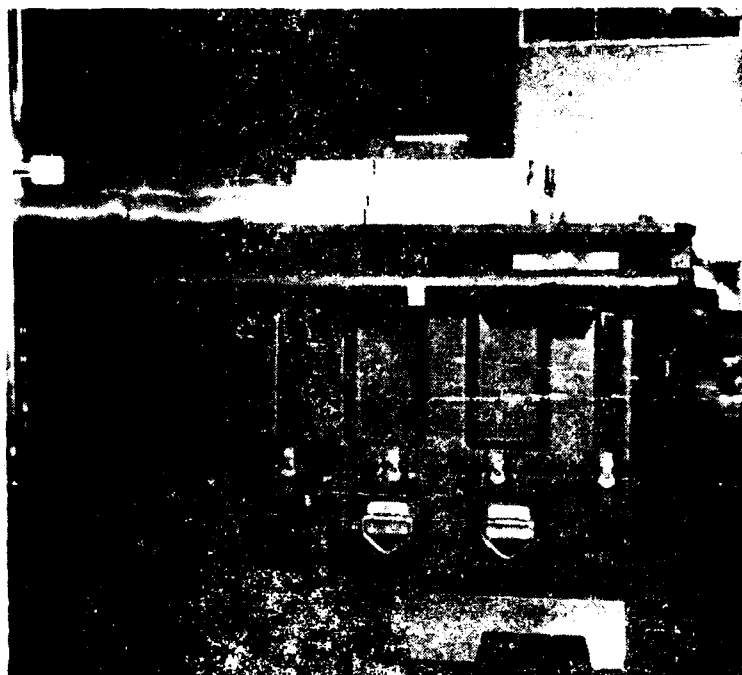
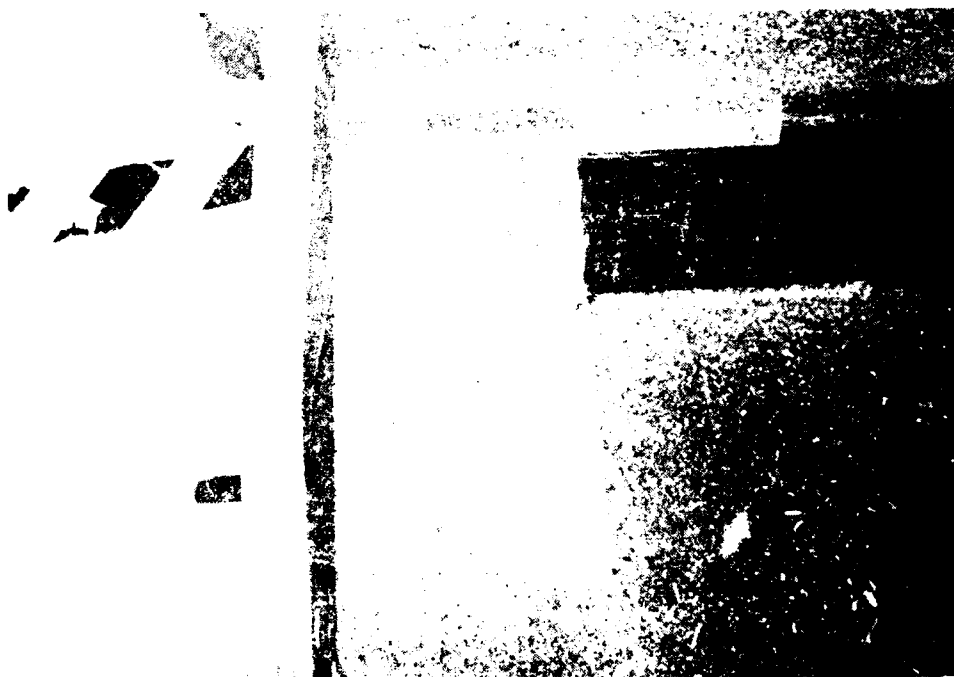


Figure 7

-100
Container
Deformation.



DISTRIBUTION LIST

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-100 CONTAINER - DETAILED ACCELERATION RESULTS

HIGH TEMPERATURE ROUGH HANDLING TESTS (+140^o F)

Impact	Position	Accelerometer readings (Gs)
		Resultant
28" rotational drop	Corner 1-2	7
28" rotational drop	Corner 3-4	8
25" rotational drop	Side 3	10
28" rotational drop	Side 4	6
7 ft/sec pendulum-impact	Side 1	14
7 ft/sec pendulum-impact	Side 2	17

1. No damage to the container or the test load.

LOW TEMPERATURE ROUGH HANDLING TESTS (-20^o F)

Impact	Position	Accelerometer readings (Gs)
		Resultant
24" rotational drop	Corner 1-4	8
24" rotational drop	Corner 2-3	11
24" rotational drop	Side 1	8
20" rotational drop	Side 2	14
7 ft/sec pendulum-impact	Side 3	24
7 ft/sec pendulum-impact	Side 4	29

1. No damage to the container or the test load.

VIBRATION FATIGUE TEST

Natural frequency 11.5 Hz
(input: 1.0G peak, 0.125 inch double amplitude)

	Resultant
Maximum Acceleration (Gs, peak to peak)	2.7
Maximum Transmissibility	2.4

1. No damage to the container or the test load.
